

Appl. No. 10/697,140
Docket No.: H1799-00226
Reply to Office Action of December 8, 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A method for making a heat pipe assembly, comprising the steps of:

providing a heat pipe having an envelope, the envelope having two elongated flat sides and two curved portions connecting the flat sides, the elongated sides having a length that is substantially greater than a radius of curvature of the curved portions;

forming a fin from a plate by punching a hole therethrough said plate that is sized and shaped so as to accommodate the envelope, said hole being defined by two elongated flat sides of said plate and two curved portions connecting said flat sides, said elongated flat sides being formed so as to have a length that is substantially greater than a radius of curvature of said curved portions, said plate being furthered formed so as to have two collar portions adjacent to said hole, said collar portions extending approximately in a direction normal to said plate, wherein said two collar portions are separated from one

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another by a pair of slots each being centrally defined in a respective one of said
two curved portions of said plate; and
placing the fin on the envelope.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising drawing a collar portion of the fin adjacent to the hole, so that the collar portion extends approximately in a direction normal to the fin.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, ~~wherein the~~
stamping including the step includes of forming a collar portion of the fin adjacent to the hole, so that the collar portion extends approximately in a direction normal to the fin.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[9,]]~~ 11 further comprising cutting two or more notches in the collar portion.

13. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the forming step includes stamping the fin from a plate.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the stamping step includes cutting two or more notches in the collar portion.

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15. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the forming step includes:

stamping a hole in the plate that is slightly smaller than a cross section of the heat pipe, and

drawing a portion of the plate located around the hole, so as to form a collar sized to receive the heat pipe.

16. – 21. (Cancelled)